

Assassination Inquiry Committee

NEWSLETTER

vol. 1, no. 2

EXTRADITION EXTRA

We in the AIC have decided to send along to you this special, emergency Newsletter on the Bradley extradition case. If you are not certain as to just why this is a vital and pressing matter, please read on. We hope we can enlighten you. In fact if you are not even certain who Bradley is, we invite you to read on. We know we can enlighten you on that.

The first thing about him is that he is a Southern Californian. And since most of our (expanding) readership is Southern Californian, we think they should be interested in Eugene Bradley. Secondly, according to our information, Bradley is a right-wing, Christian anti-communist. We'll let that speak for itself. Thirdly, and most importantly for those of us who are interested in finding out who assassinated President John Kennedy, Bradley has been charged by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison with participating in a conspiracy to murder the president.

All that remains is for the State of California to extradite Bradley to New Orleans so that he may be brought to trial. But things are not that simple. Mr. Bradley claims he is innocent, which may be true, and he is adamantly opposed to the extradition, which seems to us silly if he is innocent. It would be an excellent way to clear himself. Instead, Mr. Bradley has presented, at the extradition hearing, which was held in Sacramento on June 26, a series of alibis. As you will see in Mr. McGillner's article below, Garrison is charging Bradley on two counts: 1) conspiring in New Orleans sometime before Nov. 22, 1963, and 2) being present at the scene in Dallas on Nov. 22. Garrison has not revealed any specific date on the first count, so Bradley has not produced any alibis for this, but on the second count he has well documented alibis to show that he was actually traveling by bus through El Paso at the time. In regard to one of these alibis, Elliot Mintz, of the KPFK (LA) "Looking Out" program, has made a rather telling point. We quote here a portion of the open letter that Elliot sent to Governor Reagan: "According to the Los Angeles Times (June 27), Mr. Bradley said, under oath, that he was on a bus when the shots that killed President Kennedy were fired. He went on to say that he alighted from the bus in El Paso at 12:55 PM, and the flags were flying at half-staff. It was then, he said, someone told him and the other passengers of the assassination..."

"Now, Governor Reagan," Elliot goes on, "according to all available sources, President Kennedy was shot at 12:30 PM. He was not pronounced dead until 1:00 PM. The then Vice President Johnson was not informed until 1:20 PM, and finally the press was not informed until 1:30 in the afternoon, when Malcolm Killduff made the announcement. Therefore, how could the flags be flying at half-staff a full 35 minutes before any announcement was made?" A good question, don't you think?

We urge each of you also to write our Governor and urge Bradley's extradition. Reagan is the man who will make the decision, and our understanding is that he must make it by July 10. So write now.

Prescott Nichols

ON THE EXTRADITION OF EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY
(copyright 1968, by Geoffrey Mogilner)

Edgar Eugene Bradley surrendered himself 27 Dec 67 to Los Angeles County Sheriff Peter Pitchess as the result of a fugitive warrant obtained by Orleans Parish (New Orleans) District Attorney Jim Garrison. He was the second person to be charged by Garrison for conspiracy to murder President John Kennedy. Bradley's attorney, George J. Jensen, an ex-FBI agent,¹⁸ accompanied him and said, "I will fight extradition tooth and nail. I WILL NOT let him go to Louisiana."

Municipal Court Judge David J. Aisensohn ordered Bradley released on his own recognizance and granted a thirty-day continuance during which Louisiana could initiate the extradition.¹⁹ The New Orleans court had required a \$10,000 bond be posted. Two days after he surrendered, a copyrighted newspaper article portraying Garrison as a mental case was released.²⁰ Bradley also conducted publicity seeking press releases. He took a privately arranged polygraph test on 2 Jan 68 and passed it, according to his attorney Jensen. Jensen, however, would not allow Bradley to take a similar test arranged by any law enforcement agency. On 6 Jan 68, Dr. Carl McIntire spoke at a "Gene Bradley Defense Fund Rally" in Pasadena Civic Auditorium. He stated as proof of Bradley's good character that the city of Burbank had refused to accept his resignation from the auxiliary police force. Bradley is employed by Dr. McIntire and his "20th Century Reformation Hour" broadcasts.⁴ Dr. Bob Wells, who organized the rally, wrote, "Christians are being urged to pray, contribute, and appeal to Governor Ronald Reagan NOT to extradite Mr. Bradley to New Orleans, where psychopath Garrison can give him plenty of foul treatment."⁶

The extradition request is based on the following evidence:

1) Former Dallas County Deputy Sheriff Roger D. Craig has sworn in an affidavit that he had positively identified Bradley as the man he talked with on the steps of the Texas School Book Depository minutes after the slaying of Kennedy. Bradley "resented himself as a Secret Service man" and mingled with Dallas policemen.⁵ Craig was serving as deputy sheriff on 22 Nov 63 and had been awarded Dallas Sheriff's Officer of the Year Award in 1960. He served as (deputy) sheriff for eight years. Craig identified the man from the Book Depository steps as Bradley after seeing Bradley's picture on television, 22 Dec 67, in connection with Garrison's charge of conspiracy. "I have always had that face in mind," Craig said, "I can remember his smooth complexion and cleft in the chin. I can remember every word said that day."⁵ Craig's affidavit was placed in the extradition request along with the other documents. 2) Garrison claims in the request that he can prove Bradley had met with conspirators in New Orleans both before and after the assassination and was in Dallas the day of the murder.⁸ Garrison had identified Bradley, long before, Craig, on "other evidence" that Bradley had discussed in detail with other plotters measures to accomplish the assassination.⁵ There may be confidential affidavits attached to the extradition request.

By 16 Feb 68, the legality of the extradition papers was being studied by the Attorney General's Office.⁸ The official extradition request for Bradley, signed by Louisiana Lt. Governor C. C. "Taddy" Aycock, was not received by Governor Ronald Reagan until 25 March 68. Reagan's legal affairs secretary, Edwin Meese III,

relayed the papers for customary legal review to Attorney General Thomas C. Lynch's office.¹²

Bradley denied all of Garrison's allegations and refused a free trip to Mardi Gras. He said that although he had nothing to hide, he feared for his life if he went to New Orleans. He said that already about thirty persons who supposedly had some knowledge or connection with the Kennedy assassination had died.¹⁰ On 25 Jan 68 Bradley reiterated, "I was not in Dallas on the day of the assassination; I was not involved in any conspiracy and I do not know any of the persons named in the case."⁵ He also said that he had been in New Orleans just once in his life, and that was for a short time in 1967.⁵

Testimony of Max Gonzales is in direct contradiction to Bradley's. Gonzales, a New Orleans court clerk, disclosed 15 Feb 68 that he had witnessed meetings at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport in "either June or July" of 1963 between Bradley and the late David W. Ferrie.⁸ Also contradictory to Bradley's statements are the recently confirmed allegations that Bradley had been seen at a meeting with Lorenzo Pascillo.¹¹ Pascillo is allegedly an alias for Loran Hall¹¹, who was named in the Warren Report and had been subpoenaed as a witness by Garrison on 29 Dec 67. On 30 April 68, Hall appeared before Edwin Meese and supplied him with names of persons Hall had met at anti-Castro fund raising speeches, who had discussed the possibility and methods of assassinating John Kennedy and other government officials.¹⁴ Hall told newsmen on 2 May 68 that in 1963 he had delivered a lecture at 233 South Lafayette Park Place in Los Angeles at which Bradley "stood right beside me and couldn't help but hear" when it was suggested "we ought to get up an assassination team and go take care of Kennedy." Bradley denied attending Hall's speech there on that date or ever meeting him.¹⁵

Los Angeles Municipal Court Judge Joan Dempsey Klein granted Bradley a six month continuance in his fight against extradition because the legality of the extradition had not yet been ruled on. He was ordered to appear Sept. 30 for an extradition hearing.¹³

Other information that tends to contradict the statements made by Bradley concerning his innocence are: the hearsay report that Bradley called his wife from Dallas on the night of Nov. 22, 1963.¹⁹ Mark Lane claims to have a letter written by Bradley in which Bradley admitted that he knew "facts about the case that the public will never know about...You can be sure Oswald was not the only one involved."¹⁶ Lane also claims that Bradley tried to obtain a false affidavit of his whereabouts on Nov. 21 & 22, 1963.¹⁶ Loran Hall, according to an article in the 24 May 68 Los Angeles Free Press claims that Bradley has admitted knowing him, but under the name of "Pascillo".¹⁷

The most recent event in Bradley's extradition was the extradition hearing before Edwin Meese III, on 26 June 68. Bradley, his wife, and 20 year old son attended the hearing. Jensen's opening remarks denied that Bradley had been in Louisiana before April, 1965, that he had been in New Orleans before April, 1967, and that he was ever at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport.²⁰ Governor Reagan's aids began studying the five hours of hearing testimony the next day. Jensen based much of his defense on the Warren Report's finding of no conspiracy, saying that to extradite Bradley would in effect be saying the Warren Report is wrong.

He declined to offer the documents which he said prove that Bradley was in California between June 1 and August 1, 1963 (Gonzales' sighting).²¹ Jensen did, however, offer documents that trace the detailed whereabouts of Bradley from Nov. 22 through Nov. 23, 1963, and place him on a bus at the time of the shooting.²²

Deputy California Attorney General Daniel Kremer represented Louisiana at the hearing. He said the only issue before the hearing is whether the request to return Bradley to Louisiana is legally sufficient.²¹ Meese stressed the final decision will be up to the Governor. There has been no official indication when the decision will be made.²²

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| 0. San Diego Union (SDU) 28 Dec 67 | 14. LAT 1 May 68 |
| 1. LA Free Press (LAFP) 5 Jan 68 | 15. LAT 3 May 68 |
| 2. SDU 29 Dec 67 | 16. LAFP 3 May 68 |
| 3. LA Times (LAT) 5 Jan 68 | 17. LAFP 24 May 68 |
| 4. LAFP 12 Jan 68 | 18. LAT 27 June 68 |
| 5. LAT 26 Jan 68 | 19. LAFP 1 March 68 |
| 6. Voice of Peace and Freedom, Anaheim Feb, 68 | 20. NOSI 16 June 68 |
| 7. LAFP 2 Feb 68 | 21. NOSI 27 June 68 |
| 8. LAT 16 Feb 68 | |
| 9. LAFP 1 March 68 (In late Oct., 67, unknown persons attempted to shoot Roger Craig in the back.) | |
| 10. LAT 18 Feb 68 | 22. LAT 27 June 68 |
| 11. LAFP 1 March 68 | |
| 12. New Orleans States Item (NOSI) 21 March 68 | |
| 13. NOSI 30 March 68 | |

SOME QUOTES FROM THE OTHER SIDE

1) "As many of you know Mr. Eugene Bradley, a fine Christian, an anti-communist, and member of our commission, has been falsely accused of a plot to kill President Kennedy by DA Jim Garrison. Mr. Bradley had nothing to do with this "plot" but he needs our help. Please write Governor Reagan at once and ask him not to extradite Mr. Bradley." (From a newsletter published by the Layman's Commission of the American Council of Christian Churches. One of five names on the letterhead is Mr. E. E. Bradley, North Hollywood, California. He is the only Calif. member of the commission.)

2) Question: "But if you have the proof you say you have, and if Bradley is innocent as you say he is, then wouldn't it be better to have him go down and answer the questions and clear it up once and for all?"

Reply: "No! That's what the Communists are advocating!" (The reply is by Dr. Carl McIntire, addressing the "The Gene Bradley Defense Fund Rally" on Jan. 6, 1968. The question was asked by a young man in the audience. Quoted from an article by Paul Eberle in the LA Free Press (Jan. 12, 1968).

SOME EXERPTS FROM CALIFORNIA LAW

Paragraph 22--Extradition Under State Statute-- Under the Uniform Criminal Extradition Act, which has been adopted in California, there is a permissive provision authorizing the governor to surrender on demand of the executive authority of another state a person found in this state and charged in the other state with

the commission of an act in this state or in a third state intentionally resulting in a crime in the demanding state. This may be done though the accused, not being in the demanding state at the time of commission of crime, has not fled therefrom...

Paragraph 36--Scope of Inquiry--- The guilt or innocence of the accused of the crime with which he is charged in the other state may not be inquired into after a demand for his extradition in proper form has been presented to the governor of this state, except as such inquiry may be necessary in identifying the person held as the person charged with the crime.

(Both of the above paragraphs are from California Jurisprudence, 2nd edition, vol. XXI, San Francisco, p. 632 and p. 643.)

Closing Note

On June 27, 1968, one of the editors of the AIC Newsletter phoned DA Garrison's office in New Orleans and spoke with Assistant DA Jim Alcock, who is intimately associated with the Bradley extradition proceedings. Mr. Alcock stated that the issues in the case from their standpoint are simple, and the only pertinent questions are 1) are the extradition papers properly filled out in accordance with legal requirements, and 2) is sufficient evidence presented linking Bradley to the alleged crime and connecting him to the jurisdiction in question. Mr. Alcock then stated, and we concur, that the answer to both questions is "yes". If you feel as we do, please wire and write Governor Ronald Reagan, State Capitol, Sacramento, California 95814, urging that he extradite Edgar Eugene Bradley to Louisiana.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that our mailing list is growing rapidly and steadily. Unfortunately, contributions to support our publication have, to put it mildly, not kept pace with our expanded readership. We think you will agree that we furnish a unique, valuable service. Our maintenance and growth depend on your contributions. Please give whatever you can to sustain us. Also, pass this newsletter on to a friend. Please send subscription requests (including zip code) and contributions (if you are able) to: ASSASSINATION INQUIRY COMMITTEE

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July 4, 1968

CORRECTION TO ELIOT'S LETTER

As this Newsletter went to press, we discovered that the open letter from Eliot to Governor Reagan, which we quoted in the lead article, was in error. It seems that there is a difference in time zones between Dallas and El Paso. If Kennedy's death was announced at 1:30 p.m., Dallas time, that was only 12:30 p.m., El Paso time; thus, the people of El Paso could have lowered their flags to half-staff by 12:55 p.m., which is when Bradley says he arrived on the bus.

Eliot has apologized on his radio show for not checking this out, and we apologize to you for not checking Eliot out. We are genuinely concerned for the truth, as such a committee as ours must be, but we don't always have the patience (or the good sense?) to check everything out. Your help would be appreciated in this regard. Please let us know if you ever find us in error on any point.

While you're at it, please let us know anything you have that is of interest. For example, you might have some interesting information, pro or con, on Mr. Bradley. One thing we would like to know is if he ever lived in or visited San Diego. Help us out in any way you wish. Send newspaper clippings, for example. We get tired of working those scissors day after day.

PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY

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